

Attorney Docket No. 01197/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): M. MORISHITA et al

Serial No. :

Filed : Herewith

For : METHOD OF MANUFACTURING
GLASS PARTS FOR
CONNECTING OPTICAL
FIBERS, AND GLASS...

Art Unit :

Examiner :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

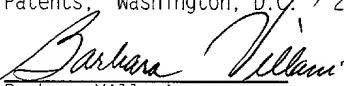
Please substitute the following amended claim 6 for the
original claim 6:

6. (amended) A glass part for connecting optical fibers
manufactured using the method claimed in claim 1, wherein said
glass part has open ends, and wherein at least one of the open
ends of said glass part is tapered in such a manner that there is
a continuous curved surface at a boundary between the at least
one of the open ends and said internal hole.

Express Mail Mailing Label
No.: EL 759 976 775 US

Date of Deposit: April 2, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper is
being deposited with the United States
Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office
to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10
on the date indicated above and is
addressed to the Asst. Commissioner for
Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231


Barbara Villani

In the event that this Paper is late
filed, and the necessary petition for
extension of time is not filed
concurrently herewith, please consider
this as a Petition for the requisite
extension of time, and to the extent not
tendered by check attached hereto,
authorization to charge the extension
fee, or any other fee required in
connection with this Paper, to Account
No. 06-1378.

Accepted for mailing at special rate of \$1.00 per copy.

Please add the following new claims:

--7. A glass part for connecting optical fibers manufactured using the method claimed in claim 2, wherein said glass part has open ends, and wherein at least one of the open ends of said glass part is tapered in such a manner that there is a continuous curved surface at a boundary between the at least one of the open ends and said internal hole.

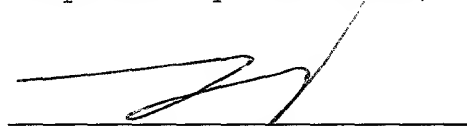
8. A glass part for connecting optical fibers manufactured using the method claimed in claim 2, wherein said glass part has open ends, and wherein at least one of the open ends of said glass part is tapered in such a manner that there is a continuous curved surface at a boundary between the at least one of the open ends and said internal hole. --

R E M A R K S

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(c), a clean copy of amended claim 6 is set forth in the present Amendment, and a marked-up version of the amended claim 6 is attached hereto.

The amendment is being made to eliminate the multiple dependency of claim 6.

Respectfully submitted,



LEONARD HOLTZ
Reg. No. 22,974

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman, Langer & Chick, P.C.
767 Third Avenue - 25th Floor
New York, New York 10017-2023
(212) 319-4900
Fax No. (212) 319-5101
LH/bv

What is claimed is:

1. A method of manufacturing glass parts for connecting optical fibers, comprising heating
5 predetermined parts of a glass tube having an internal hole while applying pressure into said internal hole, to expand said predetermined parts, thus forming tapered portions.
2. A method of manufacturing glass parts for
10 connecting optical fibers as claimed in claim 1, wherein the heating of said glass tube and the application of pressure into said internal hole are carried out while restricting an increase in an outside diameter of said glass tube.
3. A method of manufacturing glass parts for
15 connecting optical fibers as claimed in claim 1, wherein the heating of said glass tube and the application of pressure into said internal hole are carried out while drawing said glass tube in a longitudinal axial direction thereof.
4. A method of manufacturing glass parts for
20 connecting optical fibers as claimed in claim 1, further comprising cutting each of the predetermined parts of said glass tube to obtain an open end in which one of
25 said tapered portions is formed, after the heating of said glass tube and the application of pressure into said internal hole.
5. A method of manufacturing glass parts for
30 connecting optical fibers as claimed in claim 2, wherein the heating of said glass tube and the application of pressure into said internal hole are carried out while said glass tube is placed in a frame.
6. A glass part for connecting optical fibers
35 manufactured using the method claimed in ~~any one of~~
~~claims 1 through 3~~, wherein said glass part has open
claim 1

SCANNED, #14

ends, and wherein at least one of the open ends of said glass part is tapered in such a manner that there is a continuous curved surface at a boundary between the at least one of the open ends and said internal hole.

New claims 7 + 8 added.

14
SCAN